

Subject: SB 895-2

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 895-2 and to express my concern over amendment -2, which is included with this bill yet it has nothing to do with the original intent of SB 895.

Posting the vaccination rate of schools will do nothing more than cause division and spur a modern day witch hunt. You will not raise vaccination rates by bullying families in such a passive aggressive way. This is nothing more than attempt at raising hysteria. The statistics on unvaccinated students are not accurate, since children who receive all vaccines except one are considered "unvaccinated." Nothing beneficial will come from this act.

Amendment -2 will do nothing more than place additional burdens on hard working families. Many Oregonians see Naturopathic (ND) Physicians for their health care needs, as NDs are considered primary care doctors in the state of Oregon. NDs write prescriptions and administer vaccines, just like their MD counterparts, yet this amendment would require families to find a MD, Nurse Practitioner (NP), or Physicians Assistant (PA) with whom they have no prior relationship, to provide vaccine "counseling" and sign a waiver. Hear me well when I say this: this will not change the mind of a parent who does not follow the CDC vaccine schedule. Forcing parents to receive medical counseling from a provider who is not familiar with their child's particular medical history, solely for the sake of trying to bend them to your will, is an abuse of power. Families have the right to choose their own medical providers, but amendment -2 unjustly removes that right. The current wording of the bill mandates the medical professional who provides the counseling must do so using information from the CDC. My children's pediatrician, who gives vaccines in his office every single day, could not sign a waiver for us under current regulations due to his belief that discussions surrounded vaccines should include a child's health history. I completed the online module, answered all the questions, and printed my form. If SB 895-2 passes, families like mine will be forced to call around until we find a provider who will see us for nothing more than a vaccine consultation. This will place additional burdens on practitioners and will take time away from treating the patients in their practice.

SB 895-2 is a poor attempt at coercion, and a not so subtle attempt to pass what is essentially a watered down version of SB 442. Please vote NO on SB 895-2. Oregonians have a right to privacy and medical choice.

Regards,

Emily Gonzalez  
Tualatin